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Minutes

Faculty Senate

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January 14, 2014

Faculty Senate

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FACULTY SENATE MINUTES FOR 14 January 2014

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Note: These minutes are not a complete verbatim transcript of the Senate meeting.

I. Call to Order by Chair Grant Sterling at 2:01pm (Booth Library, Room 4440)

Present: J. Ashley, J. Conwell, M. Dao, A. Methven, M. Mulvaney, J. Ochwa-Echel, J. Oliver, K. Padmaraju, J. Robertson, A. Rosenstein, S. Scher, G. Sterling, K. English.

Guests: Provost Lord, Dr. Jose Antonio Rosa, DEN Reporter

II. Approval of Minutes of 3 December, 2013

Minutes from the December 3, 2013 meeting were approved. Motion made by Senator Conwell and seconded by Senator Oliver.

III. Announcements

No announcements were made.

IV. Communications

- a. E-mail from VP Weber regarding Administrative Headcount – No action needed
- b. Minutes from 12/5/13 CAA Meeting – No action needed
- c. E-mail from Chris Mitchell, Re: Substitute for CUPB – Dean Irwin recommended Anita Sheldon as a substitute for Chris Mitchell. Senator Ashley made a motion to approve; it was seconded by Senator Rosenstein. During discussion, Senator Scher enquired if the Senate had sent out a general call. Senator Sterling replied that no call had been sent out due to the holidays. Senator Scher enquired when the next CUPB meeting was and commented that he was not comfortable about an administrator recommending another administrator. Senator Ashley responded saying that he normally would have similar reservations but due to what CUPB is involved in right now, it makes sense to get the appointment in as quickly as possible.

After the discussion, the motion carried through and Anita Sheldon was approved to replace Chris Mitchell on CUPB for this semester.

- d. E-mail from Tony Oliver to Dean Irwin, Re: Mitchell sub – Action taken as described above.

- e. E-mail from Les Hyder, Re; FAC Meeting – No action needed

- h. Comments from Jennifer Stringfellow, re: EIU Pension Resolution – No action needed.

V. Presentation to the Senate – None Scheduled

VI. Old Business

A. Committee Reports

- 1. Executive Committee – No report

2. Nominations Committee – Senator Knight-Davis reported that a vacancy on the Apportionment Board needed to be filled. This was because Dr. Willardson was appointed but was unable to serve. When she looked at the names from the previous volunteers list, there were two other viable candidates. When contacted, one of them did not want to serve since he was serving on other committees. The other person, Sree Dandotkar has not responded but the concern with him is that he is Unit B and has already been appointed to 3 other committees. Senator Ashley suggested putting out a call, so Senator Knight Davis requested the Senate Recorder to put out a call.
3. Elections Committee – Discussion about CUPB substitute discussed earlier and Anita Sheldon approved to serve as substitute for Chris Mitchell for this semester.
4. Faculty-Student Relations Committee – Senator Conwell reported that he had met with the Student Senate at their last meeting.
5. Faculty-Staff Relations Committee – No report
6. Awards Committee – Senator Dao reported that the Distinguished Faculty Award is coming up soon and Senator Sterling will be overseeing the process by sending out the call for volunteers to serve on the committee.
7. Faculty Forum Committee – Senator Rosenstein reported about the Faculty Forum held on Dec. 3rd, 2013. About 30 faculty members had attended the forum and interesting discussions took place during the forum. Senator Ludlow had taken notes and is compiling them.
8. Budget Transparency Committee – Senator Sterling mentioned that the questions put forth by the committee had been added to the Program Analysis questionnaire and soon the program analysis information will be shared with the campus community.
9. Other Reports
 - a. Provost's Report - Provost Lord welcomed the Faculty back to the new semester after the holiday break. He reported that the searches were going on as scheduled with candidates starting to come to campus. The search for the Director's position is on the phone stage and the search for the registrar is ongoing.

Provost Lord asked the Senate to consider inviting Dean Augustine also to the Thesis work discussion at the next meeting as he has been actively involved in this process and will be able to add much more insight into the whole issue. For the update on the open-access legislation, Provost Lord mentioned that at the last Board meeting, the committee members had been authorized and every institution has a representative on the committee. The group is convening and they have a timeline of 12 months to report out. The process is ongoing and periodical updates will be given to the Senate. Planning for the NCA visit in the Fall is moving along and by April 1st, there should be a draft available for sharing with the campus community.

Senator Ashley asked Provost Lord to share his thoughts about the issue of cuts – with all the FTE numbers and retirements and all; if the Deans have been asked to make cuts, could they substitute these retirements for the cuts. Provost lord replied that they could. Senator Ashley also asked if there could be transparency with regard to how the Deans are planning the cuts to which Provost Lord replied that he will urge the Deans to be more open about their plans.

B. Other Old Business - None

VII. New Business

A. Future Agenda: Spring 2014 Meeting Dates - January 28 (Kraig Wheeler: Mandatory Publishing of Theses?); February 11; February 25; March 18; April 1; April 15; April 29

B. Other New Business –

a. Senator Knight Davis reported on the status of the Electronic Learning Materials (ELM) project. The Senate had originally charged the Electronic Learning Materials Taskforce with examining the use of electronic learning materials on campus and developing a plan for their further integration into instruction. The ELM Taskforce delivered its final report to the Senate and then disbanded. The report recommended that the ATISS sub-committee of ATAC develop a framework for the use of ELMs within the existing IGPs governing Textbook Rental Service.

Knight-Davis is chairing the ATAC sub-committee and the group has developed some form to supplement the existing procedure faculty use to request a new textbook. An ISS, John Henderson, and Dean Irwin are also on the sub-committee.

Faculty members would fill out the existing textbook request form, as well as an additional form describing how and where the ELM is expected to be used. The new form is then routed to the Instructional Support Specialist for the unit who

prepares a feasibility report for the Chair. This is to ensure that the Chair is aware of any additional equipment or resources needed for the ELM and is aware of any potential problems.

The sub-committee presented its work to ATAC at their December meeting. ATAC did not take action at that time and asked which other groups would review the work.

Knight Davis then asked if ATAC or the Senate had the ability to approve the recommendations, as the project had started in the Senate and then been transferred to ATAC.

Senator Padmaraju made a motion to have ATAC make a decision. The motion was seconded by Senator Conwell and carried through with one abstention by Senator Knight-Davis.

b. Senator Ashley asked if the Senate could have a discussion by bringing Dr. Weber in to talk about why Eastern was not closed during the big snowstorm and how it impacted staff who had to consider it as leave.

VIII. Adjournment: The Senate adjourned at 3:15 pm.